

Centenary
TRAINING
CONFERENCES
of the
Methodist Episcopal
Church

A STATEMENT
SUGGESTED PROGRAM
THE SPEAKERS

I

A STATEMENT

The Why of the Centenary

THE year 1919 will mark the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. By order of the General Conference, the event is to be properly commemorated. The Centenary Movement is the response of the Church to the opportunity of the hour. This movement includes:

- a—A call to daily intercession for the coming of the Kingdom of God;
- b—A call to the Stewardship of Life and Substance.
- c—A call, in view of the present World Crisis, to evangelize the Nations, to the end that the Kingdom may be ushered in and thus make Democracy safe for the World.
- d—A call to greatly increased gifts for missionary purposes at home and abroad.

The task at first staggers the imagination, but its consummation is possible. Our leading ministry and laymen welcome it as a great forward movement on the part of the Church. Its consummation will be one of the most notable achievements of the Church Universal. We do not doubt that it can be accomplished. Methodism is fully equal to the task.

“The history of the world and of all Christianity, shows that periods of suffering have for some reason, always been great creative moments with God. Thus it was in the period of the great Napoleonic Wars: nearly every great Protestant Missionary Society was called into being in those tragic years of suffering, despair and pessimism. The church found her opportunity in man’s extremity. We belittle Christianity and break the force of the message to the world at home and abroad if we scale down our plans at a time like this.”

JOHN R. MOTT.

Centenary Training Conferences

- (5) Enlisting Prayer Helpers (see
“The Enlistment of Inter-
cessors” in Packet No. 1)

III The Centenary Financial Goal
and the Ten Days Drive (see Cen-
tenary and the Local Church in
Packet No. 1)

EVENING SESSION:

THEME:

“Capturing Tomorrow”

Address: The New Church for the New
Day

Stereopticon Address (No. 1): Method-
ism and the World Crisis.

If it is desired to have two evenings
and the one day session, the day session
may be as above, and the preceding
evening may be as follows:

FIRST EVENING:

THEME:

“The Call of God for This Hour”

Ten-Minute Speeches by District Su-
perintendents, laymen, team men.

Stereopticon Address (No. 2): Method-
ism and the World Crisis.

It is expected that each session will
open with suitable devotions.

III

THE SPEAKERS

Men Who Know Their Subjects

THE Joint Centenary Commission will send some of its ablest speakers from both the Home and Foreign fields; men who know the movement, and who speak of things which they have both seen and heard. They will bring a challenging missionary message, and a program in the accomplishment of which the Church Universal will rejoice.

Who Are Expected to Attend these Conferences

- 1 THE PASTOR: It will be his part to learn how to organize his church and conduct the campaign so that the Centenary Movement shall mark a new epoch in the life of his church.
- 2 THE OFFICIAL LAYMEN: Each pastor should have present those members on whom he is relying to carry to success the Centenary in his church.

If all church officials will come into contact with this larger movement, it will add both to their inspiration and efficiency.

- 3 ANYONE who is interested in preparing to help the Church put over the greatest program that any denomination has ever undertaken should be urged to come.

The Centenary will have at each Conference samples of the booklets, leaflets, charts, and other printed material relating to Stewardship, Intercession, and organization, giving the fullest information necessary.

Speakers Bureau

JOINT CENTENARY
COMMITTEE

Methodist Episcopal Church
Methodist Episcopal Church, South

111 Fifth Avenue, New York

1 9 1 8